

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 OIC-02 L-02 EB-07 SP-02 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 INT-05 FEAE-00 AID-05 PA-01

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9699

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON ECE

SUBJECT: ECE - MEETING OF WESTERN CAUCUS

SUMMARY: MEETING OF WESTERN CAUCUS CONVENED DECEMBER 16 TO CONSIDER PROPOSED AGENDA FOR 30TH COMMISSION SESSION 15-25 APRIL 1975) AND OTHER POINTS WHICH MIGHT BE CONVEYED TO THE BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION WHICH MEETS WITH EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK ON DECEMBER 17. ONLY POINT OF SUBSTANCE WAS COMMENT ON SUGGESTIONS THAT STANOVNIK MIGHT MAKE TO COMMISSION CONCERNING ROLE OF ECE IN NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. CAUCUS AGREED THAT STANOVNIK SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS AND SHOULD BE ADVISED NOT TO UNDERTAKE SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR BENEFIT OF NON-EUROPEAN LDCS BUT MAKE AVAILABLE TO OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS MATERIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST FLOWING FROM NORMAL ECE ACTIVITIES.
END SUMMARY

1. AMBASSADOR FARACE (ITALY), CHAIRMAN, REFERRED TO DRAFT AGENDA OF 30TH SESSION DISTRIBUTED PRIOR TO MEETING (COPY POUCHED KAHN/IO/CMD). HE NOTED THAT ONLY CHANGES INVOLVED CONSIDERATION OF ENERGY QUESTION IN PLENARY RATHER THAN IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS WHEN THEY ARE REVIEWED IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE. NO OBJECTIONS
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WERE RAISED CONCERNING DATE OF THE SESSION OR THE PROPOSED

AGENDA, INCLUDING THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES.

2. AMBASSADOR FARACE MADE PASSING REFERENCE TO POSSIBILITY OF CREATING AN ECE ENERGY COMMITTEE. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION ON THIS POINT.

3. THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF DISCUSSION CONCERNED THE ROLE OF ECE WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. AMBASSADOR FARACE WAS INFORMED BY STANOVNIK THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING THREE PROPOSALS ON THIS POINT: 1) DISTRIBUTION OF RELEVANT ECE DOCUMENTS TO OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS; 2) A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF INCREASED EAST-WEST TRADE ON THE TRADE OF THE LDCS; AND 3) STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT CERTAIN "TRANSFORMATION INDUSTRIES," E.G. FERTILIZERS,

PETROCHEMICALS, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE LDCS RATHER THAN ECE.

4. NO OBJECTION WAS RAISED CONCERNING THE FIRST POINT ON DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION.

5. ON THE SECOND POINT, CONCERNING E-W TRADE IMPACT ON LDCS, MEMBERS WERE GENERALLY RESERVED. ITALY AND AUSTRIA WERE NEGATIVE WHEREAS UK FELT THAT A STUDY ON THIS QUESTION WOULD SHOW THE IMPORTANCE OF EUROPEAN TRADE TO THE LDCS AND SPOTLIGHT EUROPEAN PROBLEMS, PRIMARILY THE CHANGE IN DIRECTION OF TRADE AS A RESULT OF INCREASED OIL PRICES. THE U.S. (ABRAMS) POINTED OUT THAT EAST-WEST TRADE WAS THE PRIMARY FOCUS FOR ECE AND NOT WORLD TRADE.

6. THERE WAS UNIVERSAL AGREEMENT THAT THE THIRD PROPOSAL ON "TRANSFORMATION INDUSTRIES" SHOULD BE FIRMLY DISCOURAGED.

7. CAUCUS MEMBERS ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT STANOVNIK WAS REQUIRED BY ECOSOC RESOLUTION TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR (FERNAND-LAURENT) SAID THAT ECE CANNOT IGNORE THE PROBLEMS OF THE LDCS BUT SHOULD CONTRIBUTE IN THOSE AREAS WHICH ARE UNDER ACTIVE STUDY, E.G. FOOD AND ENERGY. THE U.K. AMBASSADOR (HILDYARD) NOTED THAT THE UN SYSTEM IS BEING PUSHED TO DO MORE FOR THE LDCS AND THAT THERE IS A STRONG CASE THAT ECE SHOULD DO SOMETHING. HE AGREED WITH THE FRENCH REP. THAT THOUGHT SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE GIVEN TO OTHER WAYS OF ASSISTING THE LDCS AND THAT ALTERNATIVES SHOULD BE EXPLORED. THE U.S. LIKEWISE FELT THAT CAREFUL THOUGHT SHOULD

BE GIVEN TO THE FRENCH SUGGESTION. SPAIN AND CANADA EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT ECE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE NEEDS OF LDC MEMBERS OF ECE.

8. THE CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED THAT STANOVNIK SHOULD BE ADVISED TO

PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY AND TO GIVE FURTHER THOUGHT TO SUGGESTIONS FOR RELATING CERTAIN ECE ACTIVITIES TO THE LDCS. IT IS TOO LATE TO MAKE A SUBSTANTIVE WESTERN INPUT TO STANOVNIK'S REPORT AT THIS STAGE BUT HE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF WESTERN CONCERN AND DESIRABILITY OF FURTHER REFLECTION.

9. THE CAUCUS AGREED WITH A SUGGESTION BY STANOVNIK THAT SUMMARY RECORDS BE ELIMINATED FOR ALL AGENDA ITEMS AT THE PLENARY. CURRENTLY ONLY MEETINGS ON ITEM 4 (WORK OF THE COMMISSION) ARE SUMMARIZED AND THOSE RECORDS WOULD BE DISCONTINUED.

10. THE CHAIRMAN ADVISED MEMBERS TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND FOR WESTERN RAPPORTEUR. AMBASSADOR BOYESEN (NORWAY) WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE 30TH SESSION. VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PLENARY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE WILL BE PROPOSED BY THE EAST.

11. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CAUCUS WILL BE HELD IN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY.DALE

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